way.

Constitution 1814.

With compliments of
Knute Nelson
Recd. Jan. 15. 96

THE

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

KINGDOM OF NORWAY

Given by the Constituent Assembly at Eidsvold on May 17th, 1814. and now, on the occasion of the union between the Realms of Norway and Sweden decreed by the Storthing in extra Session at Christiania, revised and affirmed on November 4th, 1814. —With Amendments.

TRANSLATED FROM THE NORWEGIAN

BY

U. S. SENATOR KNUTE NELSON

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A.—Religion and Form of Government.

ARTICLE 1.—Norway is a free, independent, indivisible, and inalienable Kingdom, united with Sweden under one king. Its form of government shall be a limited and hereditary Monarchy.

ARTICLE 2.—The Evangelical Lutheran Religion shall remain the official religion of the State. Inhabitants who profess the same shall be required to educate their children therein. Jesuits and Monastic orders shall have no place in the country.

B.—The Executive Power, the King and the Royal Family.

ARTICLE 3.—The executive power shall be vested in the King.

ARTICLE 4.—The King shall at all times profess, maintain and defend the Evangelical Lutheran Religion.

ARTICLE 5.—The person of the King shall be sacred; he shall not be censured, nor impeached. His council shall alone bear the responsibility.

ARTICLE 6.—The order of succession shall be lineal and agnatic, as defined in the ordinance of succession, of September 26th, 1810, adopted by the Parliament of Sweden and accepted by the King, a translation of which is attached to this Constitution. A posthumous child shall be in line of succession and shall take his place therein as soon as he is born. When a Prince in line of succession to the United Crowns of Norway and Sweden shall be born, his name and time of birth shall be made known to the Storthing at its next session and shall be entered in its journal.

ARTICLE 7.—If there is no Prince, entitled to the succession, living, the King may nominate his own successor to the Storthing of Norway and the Parliament of Sweden, simultaneously; as soon as the King has made the nomination, the representatives of both nations shall select from their own midst, a committee, with power to choose in case the nominee of the King is not confirmed by a majority of the representatives of each nation, voting separately. The number of the members of this committee, which must be equal from both Kingdoms, and the order to be pursued in making a choice, shall be determined by a law proposed by the King, at the time of making the nomination, to the next Storthing and Swedish Parliament. One member shall withdraw by lot from the assembled committee.

ARTICLE 8.—The age of majority of the King shall be fixed by a law to be enacted pursuant to an agreement between the Storthing of Norway and the Parliament of Sweden, or, in case they can not agree, by a committee selected by the representatives of both Kingdoms, under the forms prescribed in Article 7. The King shall publicly declare himself of age as soon as he has attained his majority.

ARTICLE 9.—As soon as the King is of age, and as such assumes the government, he shall take before the Storthing the following oath: "I promise and swear that I will govern the Kingdom of Norway in conformity with its constitution and laws, so help me God and his holy writ." If the Storthing is not then in session, the oath in writing shall be filed with the council of State, and shall be solemnly reiterated by the King before the next Storthing, either verbally, or in writting, by some one designated by the King therefor.

ARTICLE 10.—When the King is of age he shall be crowned and anointed in the Cathedral at Trondhjem, at such time and with such ceremonies as he himself may designate.

ARTICLE 11.—The King shall reside in Norway a part of each year, if important obstacles do not hinder.

ARTICLE 12.—The King shall appoint a State Council of Norwegian citizens, who shall not be less than thirty years of age. This council shall consist of two secretaries of state and not less than seven other members. The King shall apportion the public business among the members of the State Council in such manner as to him may seem best. The King, or in his absense the Secretary of State, together with the members of the State Council, may, on extraordinary occasions, summon, in addition to the regular members, other Norwegian citizens, not members of the Storthing, to take seat in the council. Father and son, or two brothers, cannot have seat in the council at the same time.

ARTICLE 13.—The King shall intrust, during his absence, the administration of the internal affairs of the Kingdom to such an extent as he may, himself, provide, to one of the Secretaries of State, and not less than five of the other members of the State Council. This body shall carry on the government in the name and on behalf of the King. They shall sacredly conform to the provisions of this constitution, and the different regulations in harmony therewith, embraced in the instructions of the King. They shall transmit to the King a respectful report concerning the matters thus disposed of by them. Official business shall be disposed of by vote, and in case the vote shall be equally divided, the Secretary of State, or in his absence, the first member of the State Council, shall have two votes.

ARTICLE 14.—(Repealed)

ARTICLE 15.—One of the Secretaries of State, together with two members of the State Council, who must be changed yearly, shall always remain with the King during his residence in Sweden. And they shall be under the same obligations and the same constitutional responsibilities as the members of the Council (named in Article 13) governing in Norway, and only in their presence shall Norwegian affairs be disposed of by the King. All applications from Norwegian citizens to the King shall first be presented to the Norwegian government, and supplied with its opinion before disposed of. Unless important obstacles intervene, no Norwegian affairs shall, as a rule, be disposed of by the King without first securing the opinion of the government in Norway. The Secretary of State shall bring the public business on for consideration, and shall be responsible for the dispatch of the same conformable to resolutions adopted.

ARTICLE 16.—The King shall establish regulations for all church and religious services of a public nature, and for all meetings and gatherings concerning religious affairs,

and he shall take care that the public instructors of religion adhere to the prescribed standards.

ARTICLE 17.—The King may issue and rescind ordinances relating to commerce, customs, industrial pursuits, and police regulation, but the same shall not conflict with the Constitution, or the laws of the Storthing, enacted pursuant to the provisions of Arts. 77, 78 and 79, herein contained. These ordinances shall remain in force, provisionally, until the next Storthing.

ARTICLE 18.—The King, as a rule, shall cause the taxes and imposts, levied by the Storthing, to be collected. The Norwegian national Treasury shall remain in Norway, and its income shall be devoted to the needs of Norway, exclusively.

ARTICLE 19.—The King shall take care that the property and regalia of the State be used and managed in the manner prescribed by the Storthing, and for the greatest good of the public.

ARTICLE 20.—The King is empowered, sitting in Council, to pardon criminals, after conviction; but it shall be optional with the criminal to accept the pardon of the King, or to submit to the sentence of the Court. In cases, prosecuted by the Odelsthing, in the Court of Impeachment a pardon shall not extend beyond remission of the death penalty.

ARTICLE 21.—The King shall, after having consulted his Norwegian Council of State, choose and appoint all civil, ecclesiastical, and military officers, who shall take an oath to be obedient and faithful to the Constitution and the King, or, if by law relieved from the duty of making oath, solemnly proclaim their fealty to the same. The royal princes shall not hold any civil offices.

ARTICLE 22.—The King, after having obtained the opinion of the Council of State, concerning the same, may

without prior judgment, remove from office, the Secretaries of State and the other members of the State Council, together with the officials in the Bureaus of the Council, Ambassadors and Consuls, superior Civil and Ecclesiastical officers, chiefs of regiments and other military corps, and commanders of Fortifications and ships of war. The next Storthing shall determine whether pensions shall be granted to officials thus removed, but until then they shall continue to receive two thirds of their former salary. Other officials can only be suspended by the King, and in case of suspension shall immediately be prosecuted in the Courts; but they shall not, without judgment, be removed, nor, without their consent, transferred.

ARTICLE 23. - The King may, at his pleasure, confer orders, as a reward for distinguished services, which shall be publicly made known; but he shall confer no other rank or title than that which appertains to a public office. Such orders shall relieve no one from the duties and burdens common to all citizens, nor give any special preference in securing appointment to office. Officials, graciously dismissed, may retain the rank and title of their office. No personal or mixed hereditary privileges shall be conferred on any one hereafter.

ARTICLE 24.—The King may, at pleasure, appoint and dismiss the servants of his household and the officers of his court.

ARTICLE 25.—The King shall be Commander in Chief of the land and naval forces of the realm. They shall not be increased nor diminished without the consent of the Storthing. They shall not be used in the service of foreign powers, nor shall the troops of such powers, except auxiliaries to repel hostile attack, be brought within the realm without the consent of the Storthing. In times of peace, none but Norwegian troops shall be stationed in Norway, and no Norwegian troops shall be stationed in Sweden.

The King may, however, keep a Norwegian guard of volunteers, in Sweden, and he may, for a short time, not exceeding six weeks each year, muster for drill, within the limits of either country, the nearest troops of both realms; but in no case, in times of peace, shall more than three thousand soldiers of all arms, of one country, be brought within the limits of the other country. Norway's troops and flottilla of row "gun" boats shall not be used in offensive warfare, without the consent of the Storthing. The Norwegian Fleet shall have its Dock yards, and in times of peace shall be stationed, in Norway. The ships of war of one country cannot be manned with the sailors of the other country, except as volunteers. The homeguard, and other Norwegian troops not classed as troops of the line, shall never be employed outside of the boundaries of Norway.

ARTICLE 26.—The King is empowered to call out the troops, to commence war and make peace, to enter into alliances and dissolve the same, and to send and receive Ambassadors. When the King intends to commence war, he shall communicate his views to the government in Norway, and shall obtain its advice concerning the same, together with a full report of the condition of the country, in respect to its finances, means of defence, and the like. After this has been done, the King shall convene the Norwegian Secretary of State and the Norwegian State Councillors in Sweden, together with the Swedish State Councillors, in a special Council of State, and shall explain to them the grounds and circumstances which, in the pending case, ought to be taken into consideration, and shall also place before them the views of the Norwegian government, concerning the condition of that country, and a like statement concerning the condition of Sweden. The King shall then require their opinion on the matter under consideration, which each of them for himself shall give to be entered in the journal of the Council, under the accountability established by the Constitution, and, this being done, the

King shall have the power to take and execute such resolution as he deems for the best interest of the country.

ARTICLE 27.—All Councillors of State, having no lawful excuse for absence, shall attend the State Council, and no resolution can be taken therein, when not more than one half of the members are present. In those Norwegian affairs, which, pursuant to Art. 15, are to be disposed of in Sweden, no resolution shall be taken, unless the Norwegian Secretary of State and one Norwegian member of the Council, or both of the Norwegian members of the Council, are present.

ARTICLE 28.—Recommendations concerning appointments to office and other affairs of importance, except diplomatic, and military orders, shall be laid before the Council by that member, to whose department the business belongs, and he shall dispatch the same conformable to the resolution adopted by the Council.

ARTICLE 29.—In case a State Councillor is prevented, by lawful cause, from attending and presenting matters pertaining to his department, then the same shall be presented by another member of the Council, appointed by the King, or in his absence, by the presiding officer of the Council in conjunction with the other members of the Council. In case so many of the Council are prevented, by lawful cause, from attending that no more than half of all the members are present, then other officials to be appointed, as aforesaid, shall take their place in the Council, in which case, without delay, report thereof shall be made to the King, who shall determine whether the officials so appointed shall continue to exercise the duties of the appointment.

ARTICLE 30.—A record shall be kept in the State Council of all matters there considered. It shall be the duty of every person who has a seat in the Council to express his opinion with frankness, and it shall be the duty of the King to hear the same, but he shall have the power to resolve according to his own judgment. In case any member of

the Council is of the opinion that the resolve of the King conflicts with the form of government, or the laws of the realm, or is clearly detrimental to the country, then it shall be his duty to make strong remonstrance against the same, and to enter his views in the journal. He who does not protest in this manner, shall be deemed to have concurred with the King, and shall be accountable therefor, as hereafter determined, and may, by the Odelsthing, be impeached in the Court of Impeachment.

ARTICLE 31.—All commands issued by the King himself, except military orders, shall be countersigned by one of the Secretaries of State.

ARTICLE 32.—Resolutions adopted by the government of Norway, in the absence of the King, shall be issued in his name, and shall be subscribed by the Council of State.

ARTICLE 33.—All propositions relating to Norwegian affairs, and all dispatches concerning business, arising therefrom, shall be conducted in the Norwegian language.

ARTICLE 34.—The next heir to the Throne, if he be the son of the King regnant, shall bear the title of Crown Prince. The other heirs to the Throne shall be named Princes, and the daughters of the King Princesses.

ARTICLE 35.—As soon as the next heir to the Throne has attained the age of eighteen years, he shall be entitled to take a seat in the Council of State, but without vote or accountability.

ARTICLE 36.—No prince of the blood shall marry without the consent of the King. If he violates this rule he shall forfeit his right to the Crown of Norway.

ARTICLE 37.—The royal princes and princesses shall, in respect to their persons, be answerable only to the King, or to whom he may appoint as their judge.

ARTICLE 38.—The two Norwegian Councillors of State and the Norwegian Secretary of State, accompanying the King, shall have seat and deliberative voice in the Swedish

Council of State, when matters concerning both nations are there considered. And in such cases the opinion of the government in Norway shall also be obtained, unless the matter is of such urgency that there is no time to secure the same.

ARTICLE 39.—In case the King dies while his successor is under age, the Norwegian and Swedish Councils of State shall, at once, meet, and join in a call, convening the Storthing in Norway, and the Rigsdag in Sweden.

ARTICLE 40.—Until the representatives of both kingdoms have assembled, and established the form of government during the minority of the King, the administration of the kingdoms, pursuant to their respective constitutions, shall be carried on by a Council of State, composed of an equal number of Norwegian and Swedish members The Norwegian and Swedish Secretary of State, having a seat in this joint Council, shall, by lot, determine who of them shall be the presiding officer.

ARTICLE 41.—The foregoing provisions of Arts. 39 and 40 shall also be complied with in those cases, where, pursuant to the Swedish form of government, it is the duty of the Swedish Council of State, in its capacity of executive council, to conduct the government. But in those cases where the King, in consequence of sickness or in consequence of journeys abroad, shall be prevented from conducting the government, the prince next in line of succession, in case he has attained his majority, shall be at the head of the government and temporarily exercise the executive power of the King, with the authority belonging to an *ad interim* government.

ARTICLE 42.—The King shall propose to the next Storthing in Norway and the next Rigsdag in Sweden a law, based on principles of perfect equality between both kingdoms, embracing such further provisions as may be necessary, in the cases designated in Articles 39, 40 and 41.

ARTICLE 43.—Guardians to administer the government on behalf of the King during his minority, shall be appointed in the like manner, and under the same rules as prescribed in Art. 7 for the election of a successor to the Crown.

ARTICLE 44.—Those who shall conduct the government in the cases prescribed in Articles 40 and 41 shall, the Norwegians before the Norwegian Storthing, and the Swedes before the Swedish legislature, take the following oath: "I promise and swear that I will conduct the government conformable to the Constitution and the laws. So help me God and his holy writ." If no Storthing or Rigsdag is in session at this time, the oath, in writing, shall be filed in the Council of State and shall afterwards be repeated before the next Storthing or the next Rigsdag.

ARTICLE 45.—As soon as their temporary government shall cease, they shall render an account of the same to the King and the Storthing.

ARTICLE 46.—If those, on whom it is incumbent, neglect to immediately convene the Storthing, pursuant to the provisions of Articles 39 and 41, it shall be the unqualified duty of the supreme court, as soon as four weeks have elapsed, to convene the Storthing.

ARTICLE 47.—The management of the education of the King, during his minority, shall, unless his father has left written directions concerning the same, be established conformable to the provisions of Art. 7 and 43. The King, during his minority, shall, without fail, be given ample instruction in the Norwegian language.

ARTICLE 48.—If the male royal lineage becomes extinct and no successor has been elected, a new royal line of descent shall be chosen in the manner prescribed in Art. 7. The executive power shall, in the meantime, be exercised conformable to the provisions of Art. 43.

C. — Citizenship and the Legislative Power.

ARTICLE 49.—The people shall exercise the legislative power through a Storthing, composed of two bodies, a Lagthing and an Odelsthing.

ARTICLE 50.—Only those Norwegian citizens shall be qualified voters, wo have attained the age of twenty-five years, have resided in the realm five years, are still residents, and who

a) Are, or have been, public officers;

b) Or, in the country own, or for a longer period than five years have rented, land listed for taxation;

c) Or in Finmark have for five years been rate payers;

d) Or are freemen in commercial towns, or in such towns or landing places own house or land worth not less than six hundred crowns;

e) Or have for one year last past paid direct taxes to the state, or parish, or city, of an income of not less than 500 crowns in the counties, and not less than 800 crowns in cities, provided that they have been residents of the district for not less than one year and are not servants of any household.

ARTICLE 51.—All inhabitants who are qualified voters, shall, in every commercial town, be registered by the magistrate, and in every rural parish by the clergymen and tax collector. Changes that may, from time to time, occur in the registered list shall immediately be noted therein. No one shall be registered until he publicly, in court, takes an oath of loyalty to the Constitution.

ARTICLE 52.—The right of suffrage shall be suspended in the following cases:

a) Indictment for crimes, punishable to the extent described in Article 53;

b) Being placed under guardianship; and in case

c) Assignment or bankruptcy, not arising from loss by fire or other excusable and evident misfortune, until the debtor, either, through payment in full or through accord, has become reinvested with his estate.

ARTICLE 53.—The right of suffrage shall be forfeited by:

a) Being sentenced to hard labor, removal from office, or imprisonment for a crime described in any of the chapters of the Criminal Code, relating to perjury, larceny, robbery, or fraud; by

b) Entering the service of a foreign power, without the consent of the government; by

c) Acquiring citizenship in a foreign country; and by

d) Being convicted of buying votes, of selling one's own vote, or of voting in more than one election precinct.

ARTICLE 54.—Elections and electoral meetings shall be held every third year, and they shall be brought to a close before the end of the month of December.

ARTICLE 55.—Elections in the country shall be held at the chief church of the Parish, and, in the commercial towns, at the church, City Hall, or other suitable place. The parish minister and his vestrymen shall be the judges of election in the country, the magistrates and selectmen in the commercial towns. The voting shall take place in the order in which the names appear on the registered list. Controversies about the right of voting shall be decided by the judges of election, subject to the right of appeal to the Storthing.

ARTICLE 56.—The constitution shall be publicly read before the polls are opened, in the commercial towns by the chief magistrate, and in the country by the parish minister.

ARTICLE 57.—One elector shall be chosen for every fifty qualified voters, in the commercial towns. These electors shall, within eight days thereafter, meet at a place designated by the magistrates, and shall choose from their own number, or from the other qualified voters in their

election districts thirty eight representatives to meet and take seat in the Storthing. Of these representatives, until constitutionally otherwise provided, one shall be chosen from Aalesund and Molde; one from Arendal and Grimstad; four from Bergen; one from Brevig; four from Christiania, Hønefos and Kongsvinger; two from Christiansand; one from Christiansund; two from Drammen; one from Flekkefjord; one from Frederikstad; one from Fredrikshald; one from Hammerfest, Vardø and Vadsø; one from Holmestrand; one from Kongsberg; one from Kragerø; one from Larvik and Sandefjord; one from Lillehammer, Hamar and Gjøvik; one from Moss and Drøbak; one from Porsgrund; one from Sarpsborg; one from Skien; two from Stavanger and Haugesund; one from Tromsø; four from Trondhjem and Levanger; one from Tønsberg, and one from Østerrisør. When a commercial town not herein named shall have fifty or more qualified voters, it shall be attached to the nearest commercial town constituting a representative election district. The same rule shall apply to commercial towns hereafter established. A commercial town belonging to a commercial town district shall be, entitled to choose its own elector, even though the number of qualified voters may be less than fifty. In no case shall less than three electors be chosen in any commercial town, which, by itself, constitutes one representative election district.

Article 58.—In every parish in the country the qualified voters shall, in proportion to their numbers, choose electors as follows: up to one hundred, shall choose one; between one hundred and two hundred, shall choose two; between two hundred and three hundred, shall choose three, and so on in the same proportion. These electors shall, within one month thereafter, meet, at a place designated by the county sheriff, and from their own number, or from the other qualified voters of the county, shall choose, in the following proportion, seventy-six representatives to meet

and take seat in the Storthing, to-wit: From the county of Akershus five representatives; from the county of Nordre Bergenhus five; from the county of Søndre Bergenhus five; from the county of Christians five; from the county of Finmarken two; from the county of Hedemarken five; from the county of Nordland five; from the county of Romsdalen five; from the county of Stavanger five; from the county of Tromsø two; and from each of the other eight counties four representatives. Those who have held the office of secretary of State or councillor of State shall be eligible in any election district, provided that they are otherwise qualified voters and not already have been elected in any other district. But no district shall elect more than one non-resident representative.

ARTICLE 59.—(Repealed).

ARTICLE 60.—Qualified voters residing within the realm who cannot, on account of sickness, military service, or other lawful impediment, meet at the polls, may, by writing, send their votes to the judges of election before the polls are closed.

ARTICLE 61.—No one shall be chosen representative unless he is thirty years of age, and has resided within the realm ten years.

ARTICLE 62.—Neither the members of the State Council, nor the officials in the Bureaus of the same, nor the servants or pensionaries of the Court, shall be elected representatives.

ARTICLE 63.—Whoever is chosen representative is in duty bound to accept the office, unless elected under the last clause of Article 58, or prevented by cause deemed sufficient by the electors, whose decision may be reviewed by the Storthing. He who has attended, as representative the three regular Storthings, succeeding the same election, shall not be obliged to accept the office at the next election. In case a representative is prevented, by lawfull cause, from

attending the Storthing, the person receiving the next highest vote shall attend, but in case the electoral meeting has chosen an alternate, then he shall attend.

ARTICLE 64.—As soon as the representatives are elected, they shall be provided with Certificates of Election, subscribed, in the country by the chief magistrate, and in the commercial towns by the magistrates, and in both cases by the several electors, as evidence that they have been elected in the mode prescribed by the Constitution. The validity of these certificates shall be passed upon by the Storthing.

ARTICLE 65.—Every representative is entitled to compensation from the National Treasury for expenses in traveling to and from the Storthing and for subsistence during attendance.

ARTICLE 66.—Representatives shall, except when caught in the act of committing public offences, be privileged from arrest while going to, returning from and attending, the Storthing; and they shall not be questioned in any other place for opinions expressed in the sessions of the Storthing, but every member shall conform to the established parliamentary rules.

ARTICLE 67.—The representatives chosen in the manner hereinbefore prescribed shall constitute the Storthing of the kingdom of Norway.

ARTICLE 68.—The Storthing shall as a rule convene on the first weekday of the month of February, in every year, at the Capital of the nation, unless the King, on account of extraordinary circumstances, such as hostile invasion or contagious disease, designates another commercial town in the realm. Timely notice of such designation shall be publicly announced.

ARTICLE 69.—The King shall be empowered, in extra ordinary cases, to convene the Storthing in special session; and in such event, he shall issue a proclamation, which shall be read in all churches of the Episcopal Towns, at

least fourteen days before the members of the Storthing shall meet at the place designated.

ARTICLE 70.—Such a special Storthing may be prorogued by the King at his pleasure.

ARTICLE 71.—Members of the Storthing shall officiate as such for three successive years at all special, as well as all regular sessions, held during that time.

ARTICLE 72.—If a special session of the Storthing is held at the time a regular session should commence, the former shall be prorogued before the latter convenes.

ARTICLE 73.—The Storthing shall select one fourth of its members, who shall constitute the Lagthing; the other three fourths shall constitute the Odelsthing. The selection shall be made at the first regular Storthing, meeting after a new election, and thereafter the Lagthing shall remain unchanged in all Storthings succeeding the same election, except in cases of vacancy, which shall be filled by special election. Each Thing shall hold its sessions separate, and shall choose its own President and Secretary. Neither Thing shall be in session unless two thirds of its members are present.

ARTICLE 74.—As soon as the Storthing shall be organized, the King, or some one appointed by him, shall open their proceedings with a message informing them of the condition of the country, and the subjects to which he especially desires to call their attention. No deliberations shall take place in the presence of the King.

After the sessions of the Storthing have been initiated, the Secretaries of State and the State Councillors shall be entitled to meet in the Storthing and both branches thereof and to participate in the proceedings, without the right to vote, on a footing of equality with the members when in open session, but when in secret session only to the extent permitted by the Thing.

ARTICLE 75.—The Storthing shall have power:

a) To enact and repeal laws, to levy taxes, imposts, duties and other public charges, which shall be valid only until the first day of July in the year in which the next regular Storthing convenes, unless expressly renewed by the latter;

b) To borrow money on the credit of the nation;

c) To manage the finances of the nation;

d) To appropriate the necessary monies for the expenses of the government;

e) To determine how much, yearly, shall be paid to the King for his household; and to establish the appanage of the royal family, none of which shall be real estate;

f) To cause to be laid before them the journal and all public reports and documents of the government in Norway, except purely Military orders, together with verified transcripts and extracts from the journals, with the King, kept by the Norwegian Secretary of State and the two Norwegian Councillors of State, stationed in Sweden, and the public documents filed with them;

g) To cause themselves to be informed of the alliances, and treaties, excepting secret articles, entered into by the King, on behalf of the nation with foreign powers;

h) To require all persons, except the King and the royal family, to appear before them, in public affairs; royal princes, occupying public offices shall not be excepted from this provision.

i) To revise temporary salary and pension lists and to make such changes therein as they may deem necessary.

k) To appoint five auditors who shall yearly audit the accounts of the government and publish extracts from the same, which accounts shall, for this purpose, be submitted to the auditors within six months after the expiration of the year for which the appropriations of the Storthing have been made; and

l) To naturalize foreigners.

ARTICLE 76.—Every law shall first be introduced in the Odelsthing, either by its own members, or by the government through a member of the State Council. If the Odelsthing shall pass the law, it shall be sent to the Lagthing for approval or rejection, and if rejected, shall be returned, with explanation appended, to the Odelsthing, who shall take the same into consideration and shall, either indefinitely postpone the proposed law or again send it to the Lagthing, with or without amendment. When a proposed law has, by the Odelsthing, been twice laid before the Lagthing and from thence has been a second time rejected the entire Storthing shall assemble in one body, and shall, by a two-third vote dispose of the measure. Between every such consideration of the measure, at least three days shall intervene,

ARTICLE 77.—When a measure has passed the Odelsthing, and has been concurred in by the Lagthing, or by the Storthing as one body, it shall be sent to the King, if he be present, or, if not present, to the Norwegian government, with the request that the King approve the same.

ARTICLE 78.—If the King approve the measure, he shall append his signature thereto, whereby it becomes a law. If he does not approve it, he shall return it to the Odelsthing with the statement, that he does not, for the time being, deem it expedient to sanction the same. In this event, the measure shall not, by the Storthing then in session, be again presented to the King.

ARTICLE 79.—If a measure has been adopted without change by three regular Storthings, assembled after three separate and successive elections, and separated from each other by at least two intervening regular Storthings, and no Storthing, in the time intervening between the first and final passage of the measure, has adopted a conflicting resolve, then, if such measure is presented to the King with the request, that his majesty do not withhold his sanction

from a measure which the Storthing, after the most mature consideration, deems beneficial, it shall become a law, notwithstanding the King may not sanction the same before the adjourment of the Storthing.

ARTICLE 80.—The Storthing may remain in session as long as it deems necessary, not however to exceed two months, without the permission of the King. When, after having finished its proceedings, or after having been in session for the period fixed by law, it is prorogued by the King, he shall communicate to them his decision upon the measures passed, by either approving or rejecting the same.

ARTICLE 81.—All laws shall be promulgated, in the Norwegian language, and (excepting those passed under Art. 79) in the name of the King, under Norway's State seal, and in the following terms: Wé.—N. N.—make known: that there has been presented to us the resolve of the Storthing, of date and tenor following: (here follows the resolve), which we have approved and confirmed and hereby approve and confirm, as law, under our hand and the seal of the realm.

ARTICLE 82.—The approval of the King shall not be required for those resolutions of the Storthing whereby:

a) It declares itself in session as Storthing conformable to the Constitution;

b) It determines its own rules of procedure;

c) It accepts or rejects the certificates of election of the members present;

d) It affirms or reverses decisions concerning election controversies:

e) It naturalizes foreigners; and

f) lastly not for the resolution whereby the Odelsthing shall impeach the members of the State Council, or other persons.

ARTICLE 83.—The Storthing may obtain the opinion of the Supreme Court upon judicial subjects.

ARTICLE 84.—The Storthing shall be open to the public, and its proceedings shall be published in print, except in those cases where it shall be otherwise determined by a majority vote.

ARTICLE 85.—He who shall obey a command, the object of which is to interfere with the freedom and safety of the Storthing, is guilty of treason against his native land.

D.—Concerning the Judicial Power.

ARTICLE 86.—The members of the Lagthing, together with the Supreme Court, shall constitute the Court of Impeachment, which shall, in the first and last instance, try cases of impeachment instituted by the Odelsthing against members of the State Council, or members of the Supreme Court, for malfeasance in office, or against members of the Storthing for misdemeanors, committed by them in their official capacity. The President of the Lagthing shall preside in the Court of Impeachment.

ARTICLE 87.—The accused may, without cause, peremtorily challenge one third of the members of the Court of Impeachment, but not so many, however, as to leave the Court sitting with less than fifteen members.

ARTICLE 88.—The Supreme Court shall be the tribunal of last resort. It shall not consist of less than one chief justice and six associate judges. This article shall not prohibit the final disposal of criminal cases conformable to law, without the intervention of the Supreme Court.

ARTICLE 89.—In times of peace, the Supreme Court, together with two high military officers to be appointed by the King, shall constitute the Court of Appeal and of final resort, in all court martial cases, involving life, honor, or loss of liberty for a longer period than three months.

ARTICLE 90.—The decisions of the Supreme Court can in no case be appealed or revised.

ARTICLE 91.—No one shall be appointed a member of the Supreme Court before he is thirty years of age.

E.—General Provisions.

ARTICLE 92.—Public offices shall be filled only by those Norwegian citizens, who speak the language of the land, and:

a) Who were born within the realm of parents then citizens of the country; or

b) Who were born in foreign countries of Norwegian parents, not then citizens of another nation; or

c) Who shall hereafter reside ten years within the realm; or

d) Who shall be naturalized by the Storthing. Other persons may, however, be appointed physicians, instructors in the University and grammar schools, and consuls in foreign places. No one shall be appointed a superior magistrate before he is thirty years of age, nor a magistrate, district judge, or sheriff before he is twenty five years of age. None but those who profess the official religion of the state shall be members of the King's Council. The same rule shall apply to the other offices of the state, until otherwise provided by law.

ARTICLE 93.—Norway shall not be liable for any other than its own national debt.

ARTICLE 94.—Measures shall be taken to enact, at the next regular Storthing, or, if this is not possible, at the next succeeding regular Storthing, a new general civil and criminal code. The existing laws of the realm shall, in the meantime, remain in force, so far as they are not in conflict with this Constitution or temporary ordinances meanwhile enacted. Permanent taxes, now existing, shall continue until the next Storthing.

ARTICLE 95.—No dispensations, writs of protection, letters of respite, or acquittal, shall be granted after the new general code has taken effect.

ARTICLE 96.—No one shall be tried except pursuant to law, nor be punished except pursuant to sentence. Torture shall not be inflicted.

ARTICLE 97.—No law shall be given retroactive effect.

ARTICLE 98.—No public imposts shall be attached to fees paid to attendants of courts of justice.

ARTICLE 99.—No one shall be arrested, except in the case and mode prescribed by law. Whosoever is responsible for an unauthorized arrest or an unlawful restraint, shall be liable therefor to the person arrested. The government shall not be authorized to employ military force against the members of the nation otherwise than pursuant to the provisions of law, except in the case of an assembly, disturbing the public peace, which shall refuse to immediately disperse, after the civil magistrate has thrice publicly read the articles in the public code relating to insurrection.

ARTICLE 100.—The liberty of the press shall remain inviolate. No one shall be punished for any writing of whatsoever nature, which he has printed or published, unless he has wilfully and openly manifested, or caused others to manifest, disobedience to the laws, contempt for religion, morality, or the Constitutional authorities, or resistance to the commands of these authorities, or has made false and defamatory charges against any person. It is the right of every one to express his opinions frankly about the administration of public affairs, or any other subject whatsoever.

ARTICLE 101.—New and permanent restrictions to industrial freedom shall not hereafter be granted in behalf of any person.

ARTICLE 102.—The right of search in dwellings shall exist only in criminal cases.

ARTICLE 103.—No place of refuge shall be granted to those who hereafter become bankrupt.

ARTICLE 104.—Land and inheritance shall in no case be subject to forfeiture.

ARTICLE 105.—If the public necessity shall require the real or personal property of anyone for public use, he shall be entitled to full compensation therefor from the state treasury.

ARTICLE 106.—The monies derived from sales, as well as the rents, of church lands, shall be devoted exclusively to the benefit of the church and the advancement of education. The property of charitable institutions shall be devoted exclusively to their benefit.

ARTICLE 107.—The right of allodial ownership, and of retaining the paternal estate shall not be abolished, but the precise conditions under which, for the greatest good of the State and the benefit of the public, it shall continue, shall be determined by the next Storthing, or the one succeeding.

ARTICLE 108.—No Earldoms, Baronies, proprietary or entailed estates, shall hereafter be created.

ARTICLE 109.—Every citizen shall, as a rule, without regard to birth or fortune be equally bound to perform military service for a limited time, in defence of his country. The application and limitation of this rule, and whether it is beneficial for the country that liability to military service cease with the twenty-fifth year, shall be determined by the next Storthing, after it has, through a committee, ascertained all the facts. Existing regulations shall in the meantime remain in force.

ARTICLE 110.—Norway shall retain its own bank and its own system of currency and coinage, for which institutions due provision shall be made by law.

ARTICLE 111.—Norway shall be entitled to carry its own merchant flag. Its naval flag shall be a union flag.

ARTICLE 112.—If experience shall suggest that any part of this Constitution of the Kingdom of Norway should be amended, the proposal for such amendment shall be

made in the first regular Storthing, succeeding a new election, and notice thereof shall be duly given by publication. But one of the regular Storthings following the next succeeding election shall first have the power to determine whether the proposed amendment shall be adopted or not. Such amendment shall not contravene the principles on which this Constitution is based, and shall only relate to such modifications in single provisions as will not change the spirit of the Constitution, and shall be concurred in by two-thirds of the Storthing.